

Cross Reference to Related Application

A1 This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/258,228 entitled "Method for Determining if the Location of a Wireless Communication Device is Within a Specific Area" filed on February 26, 1999, now issued as U. S. Patent No. 6,212,392B1.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-16 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and add the following new claims:

17. (Added) A method for determining whether a wireless station is located within a geographical zone that is of substantially any shape, the method comprising:

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cm.t establishing a hierarchical data structure for representing an area of interest including the geographical zone, the hierarchical data structure including a first level where the area of interest is represented by cells and a second level where the area of interest is represented by subcells, said subcells of said second level corresponding to smaller geographical areas than said cells of said first level;

establishing a geographical zone definition for said geographical zone by reference to said hierarchical data structure wherein said geographical zone definition includes information identifying at least one identified cell of said first level and at least one identified subcell of said second level such that said geographical zone is collectively defined by said identified cells and subcells;

receiving a location associated with a wireless station; and

determining whether or not the location associated with the wireless station is within the geographical zone by using said location associated with the wireless station and said geographical zone definition including said identified cells and subcells, wherein said step of determining is facilitated by use of both said identified cells and said identified subcells in said geographical cell definition.